

SPORTS



The USSR has thrashed Czechoslovakia 120-88 in the final of the European basketball championship in West Germany — their 14th such victory to date.
(Please read more about the championship in our next issue.)

One third of the road travelled

Five of a total of 15 rounds have been played in the men's chess tournament at Tassco, Mexico. Jan Timman of Holland leads with four points, having won three games and drawn two. Mikhail Tal, world champion, is so far the best Soviet entrant with three points. Oleg Romanishin and Yuri Balashov are level at 2.5 points each but the former has yet to play an adjourned game. Balashov drew all his five games, while Romanishin scored one win.

The top four will make the next stage of the world championship, the challengers' tournament, to be held at Montpellier, France, this October.

Meanwhile Gari Kasparov leads Swedish Grandmaster Ulf Andersson 2-1 in a practice match in Bologna. The first two games were drawn and Kasparov won the third one. Earlier he beat West German Grandmaster Robert Hübner 4.5 to 1.5 in a similar match in Hamburg.

In this way Kasparov is warming up for his new match for the crown against Anatoly Karpov due this September, while Karpov is doing some research in a wonderful chess library in Odessa which boasts some very rare publications. Later he will go for some lectures to West Germany and probably some simultaneous play sessions. **Viktor BABKIN**

New USSR champion

Quite unexpected were the results of the USSR championship in the three-day equestrian event held in Stavropol. The winner among the fifty participants (including the best Soviet riders, some of them 1980 Olympic champions) was Valery Davidovich of Minsk. He won on only 65.84 penalty points. The runner-up with a great gap was Gennadiy Danilov of Kiev who made it 82.44 penalty points.



Luzhnik was the venue for the Moscow go-cart championship won by the Proletarsky district. This photo by Sergei Proskov shows one of the heats.

Main prize to Yelena Devetyarova

Yelena Devetyarova from Kirovsk, 17, has won the overall title at the "Sovetskaya Kultura" rhythmic exercises international annual tournament in Ordzhonikidze, capital of North Ossetia, with 39.3 points. The 12-year-old schoolgirl from Volgograd Natalya Lyutova totalled 38.65 to come second, and Poland's Beata Janetz was third with 37.65 points.

First world champion

Muscovite Alexander Kandozov is the first Russian draughts world champion, drawing with Anton Kisor of Holland in the last round of the first yet world championship in Italy and total-

ling 9.5 points. Vladimir Vignan, from Vilnius (also of the USSR), placed second with eight points, and Denis Douglas, of Brazil, third with 7.5 points.

Equestrian sport

Yuri Kovshov of the USSR placed second at a big international competition of Aachen, West Germany. He totalled 1,365 points astride his mount Rukh in the "Medium Prize 2" after Otto Hofer of Switzerland, who totalled 1,382 points.

Viktor Demidenko wins

22-year-old Kuybyshvets cyclist Viktor Demidenko has won the national 50 km individual race title in 1 hr 3 min 11 sec. Runner-up Yevgeny Klerzhin from Riga came in nine seconds behind, and Igor Sumnikov from Vitebsk was third in 1:10:37.

Tournament of top four

The second game of the USSR, with Australia, in a tournament of the world's top four field hockey teams, ended in a 1-1 draw.

At the start of the contest in Holland the USSR lost to the

hosts, world, European and Los Angeles Games champions, 2-4. Holland and West Germany, who draw in the second round 1-1, now share the lead with three points each, and the USSR and Australia have one point each.



The USSR Rugby Cup matches are continuing. In the one-eighth final, Fil look on Spariak (both Moscow teams) winning 28-0. Photo by Pyotr Sergeev

WEIGHTLIFTING

Last year national cup winner Alexander Stolyarov from Vitebsk won the national individual title in the second heavy division with 402.5 kg (177.5+225). World ex-record holder Sergei Didyk from Vinitsa was second with 390 kg (160+230) and Yuri Smolyaninov from Tagerog was third with 390 kg (172.5+217.5).

Match drawn

The annual Polish draughts friendly match between the

Basketball

The USSR women's team beat China in Moscow in their second closing friendly match 77-70. Earlier they won 83-71. Sukharmova scored the most 19 points for the winners, and Qiu Chen was China's top scorer with 27 points.

MAIN INFORMATION

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Just solution to Middle East conflict

The Soviet Union highly appreciates the persistent anti-imperialist policy of Syria which firmly upholds the national interests and legitimate rights of the Arabs.

This was emphasized by Mikhail Gorbachev during the talks with Hafez al-Assad, President of Syria.

Mikhail Gorbachev and Hafez al-Assad expressed deep concern over the present explosive situation in the Middle East caused by the continuing aggressive actions of Israel with direct US support. The cause stirred by them is aimed at imposing their military and political diktat on the Arabs, drawing them into separate deals with the aggressor — deals favourable to imperialism but dangerous and humiliating for the Arabs. —

Adopting a blow at progressive Arab regimes and blocking a comprehensive, just and lasting Middle East settlement. Special attention was paid to the threat posed by Israeli and US scheming against the Arab people of Palestine, their determination to prevent the assistance of certain Arab elements, the establishment of an independent Palestinian state.

The sides pointed out that Israel's presence in Southern Lebanon is intolerable in any form. Internal Lebanese problems can be solved only by peaceful means on the basis of national sovereignty and the Lebanese themselves, with due regard for the interests of all patriotic forces in Lebanon and the preservation of the country's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Pacific nations favour nuclear-free zone

London. The working group of a forum of South Pacific nations held in Suva (capital of Fiji) has completed a draft accord proclaiming this vast area of the globe a nuclear-free zone. The text of the document was approved during consultations by highly-placed representatives of members of the forum, a regional organization embracing 13 Pacific nations, among them Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and some Oceania states. The draft accord envisages a ban on the manufacture and possession of nuclear weapons by forum members, as well as their tests and dumping of radioactive waste in the southern Pacific.

The decision on the need for a nuclear-free zone in the region

was made at last year's session of this regional organization held on Tuvulu Island. The draft will be discussed by the next session due this August on the Solomon Islands.

POLITBUREAU WEEKLY MEETING

The Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee has examined the results of the meeting held at the CPSU Central Committee on matters involving the acceleration of scientific and technological progress, and measures to be taken to implement the proposals advanced at the meeting.

It was noted that the meeting's realistic assessment of the situation in the Soviet economy and the balanced and substantiated conception set forth for speeding up the socio-economic development of the Soviet Union, for qualitative restructuring of the material and technological foundation of the national economy — on the basis of the introduction of the latest scientific and technological achievements — and for improving management and the economic mechanism are fully supported by Communists and the entire Soviet people.

It was deemed expedient to specify target figures in the efforts to intensify the national economy on the basis of scientific and technological progress, while putting finishing touches to the Guidelines for the USSR's Economic and Social Development in 1986-1990 and up to the year 2000.

Specific organizational measures were outlined to perfect investment and structural policies; consolidate the scientific and technological potential of the country; improve planning and management; further strengthen socialist economic integration of CMEA member-countries, and to solve other issues raised at the meeting.

The Politbureau also discussed and approved the results of Mikhail Gorbachev's talks with Chairman of the State Council of the Bulgarian People's Republic, Todor Zhivkov, who was recently on friendly working visit to the Soviet Union. It confirmed the resolve of the CPSU and the Bulgarian Communist Party to strengthen the comprehensive links between the Soviet Union and Bulgaria.

The Politbureau likewise approved Nikolai Tikhonov's talks with the President of the Finnish Republic, Mauno Koivisto, which were held during activities marking the completion of the Kosimuksha ore enrichment plant built with the participation of Finnish firms.

Film makers to converge in Moscow

The 14th International Film Festival involving forty-five feature films, will open on June 28, in Moscow. This was made known to Soviet and foreign journalists at a press conference by Filip Varnash, Chairman of the USSR State Committee for Cinematography. An international jury headed by Sergei Gerasimov will decide the winners. Besides, one hundred short films and fifty films for children have been entered for the contest.

The Soviet entries under the three headings include "Go and Watch", a feature film by Elem Klimov; a Kazakh film for children, "Sweet Juice in the Grass"; and two short films — "The Pyramid" and "The Twenty-Fifth April". The feature films will vie for three gold and three silver medals, as well as two other prizes for the best acting. As part of the Festival, the

Zaryadye Cinema will give retrospective demonstration of films by Grigory Kozintsev and François Truffaut as tribute of our profound admiration for those famous film makers' contribution to the development of world cinema. Retrospectives of the best anti-war and anti-fascist films will be shown to mark the 40th anniversary of the Victory over nazism.

Popular foreign actors and film directors who will be in Moscow for the Festival include: Khristo Khristov and Tsvetana Manayeva of Bulgaria; Peggy Ashcroft of Britain; Manos Zacharias of Greece and Shashi Kapoor of India. Others are: Stefania Sandrelli, Ettore Scola and Carlo Lizzani of Italy; Li Ling of China, Norman Jewison and Joan Harvey of the United States, and Komaki Kuribara of Japan. In all, more than one thousand guests are expected.

BALLET COMPETITION SURPRISES



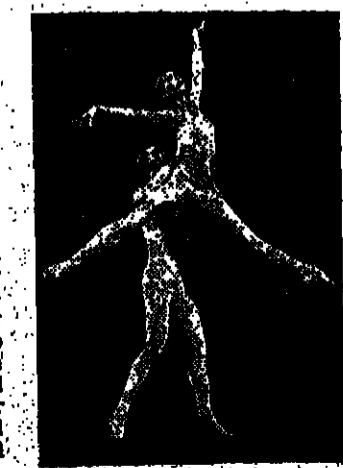
One of the greatest attractions of every competition, including the International Ballet Competition in Moscow, is the expectation of the unexpected, something new and interesting. Young Chinese competitors have certainly provided that attraction. Although it is their first appearance in Moscow, all seven have made it to the second stage. Audiences have been welcoming their performances with stormy applause and many bravos. Could they have expected such success?

It is a great privilege for the Chinese dancers to appear in Moscow. Jiang Zu Hui, leader of the delegation, choreographer of Peking's Central Ballet Troupe, told us: We never hoped for such a big success. We were nervous and apprehensive lest our competitors would not adapt to the sloping Bolshoi stage, soon enough. Soviet dancers watched our first rehearsals closely. Their praise encouraged and cheered us up. Our dancers are delighted and eager performers. The audience's warm response has put them at ease and enabled them to show their best.

Classical ballet began to de-

velop in China only in the 1950s. Jiang Zu Hui continued. We had Soviet choreographers working in China between 1954 and 1960. The idea is to set up a national school of ballet on the basis of the Russian classical dance school.

Perhaps, you are surprised to



Tatyana Chernobrovkina and Leonid Nikosov of the USSR.

find me speaking Russian. I studied in Moscow at the Lunacharsky Institute of Dramatic Art. Finding myself here once again, after 20 years, I rejoice in seeing old friends and Moscow, which is so familiar and yet new to me. Our young dancers are yet to get acquainted with it.

So far all our thoughts are centred on the competition, competitors Zhang Weiqiang and Tang Min said. It is a great challenge to appear on the Bolshoi stage, on which Galina Ulanova and Maya Plisetskaya performed. Being only human, we feel nervous and tense, our hearts all a flutter. But with the first sounds of music, we think only of the dance.

After the performance, Maya Plisetskaya came up to congratulate Tang Min and Zhang Weiqiang. I like the pair very much, the famous ballerina said. They have excellent technique, exquisite grace and the spirit of true artists. Generally speaking, classical pas de deux choreography is standard, but different schools offer different interpretations. The vision, performance and technique introduced by the Chinese dancers are interesting, which for me is a very important characteristic of every art. Individuality and gift decide everything and Chinese dancers, no doubt, have these.

During the interval, as the jury and the audience relaxed, work continued behind the curtain and in the wings. The youngest entrant, Simona Soms-

(Continued on page 8)



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DEAR READERS,

"MN Information" comes out on Tuesdays and Saturdays and offers in brief the latest information on events in the USSR and in the world reported by TASS and foreign news agencies.

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In Holland a growing protest against the deployment there of US nuclear weapons and involvement of the country in the imperialist global strategy of aggression continues unabated. A demonstration against the visit of the British aircraft-carrier "Hutchinson", possibly with nuclear weapons on board.

Photo ANP-TASS

Round
the Soviet
Union

● MIGRANT BIRDS WHICH ARE RETURNING TO LOWER REACHES OF THE PECHORA, A RIVER IN NORTHERN RUSSIA, MEET QUIETER HABITATS THIS YEAR. The swans, geese and ducks have chosen an extensive area of tundra lakes as their summer homes. The site, under state protection, is now known as the Nenets Preserve. It has a total area of 440 thousand hectares where hunting, fishing, and tourism are forbidden.

● A MICROSURGERY CENTRE HAS BEEN SET UP AT THE INSTITUTE OF CLINICAL AND EXPERIMENTAL SURGERY IN ALMA-ATA, CAPITAL OF KAZAKHSTAN (A REPUBLIC IN THE EAST OF THE COUNTRY). Microsurgeons have replanted the amputated hand of the first patient. He left the centre fully recovered.

● THE MELODIES OF THE SIBERIAN FOLKLORE FESTIVAL IN NOVOSIBIRSK HAVE SOAKED UP THE BOUNDLESS EXPANSES OF THAT AREA, ITS UNIQUE BEAUTY. The best singers and storytellers from the village villages and tundra attend it. Stories, legends and songs about the centuries-old history of the peoples inhabiting this vast region were sung to the accompaniment of khomus, chakhon, topshur and other original musical instruments. The festival was arranged for the first time.

● THE SHUMKAR HYDRO-SYSTEM HAS STARTED FUNCTIONING IN THE TALASS VALLEY OF KIRGHIZIA (A CENTRAL ASIAN REPUBLIC). It cut through the rocky ridges at a nearly 2,000 m above sea level. Tunnelers directed a glacial spring to an arid plateau covering about 1,000 hectares.

● DRESSES FROM ALL ETHNIC DISTRICTS OF LATVIA (A SOVIET BALTIC REPUBLIC) ARE BEING DISPLAYED AT A NATIONAL CLOTHING EXHIBITION IN RIGA. The exhibits, more than 300 sets, show the way of life, traditions and tastes of peasants and artisans of the past centuries. The exhibition attracts the attention of handicraftsmen, heads of folk dance and choir companies. Designers draw from it new trends of modern fashion.

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

FESTIVAL IN COMPUTER'S MEMORY

The opening day of the World Festival of Youth and Students in Moscow is approaching. The Soviet capital is getting ready to accommodate scores of thousands of guests from all over the world and to make their stay here interesting, comfortable.

Salyut and Druzhba hotels, the Tourist House and Izmaloovo (the biggest tourist complex in Europe) are just a few addresses of the Festival's guests, writes IZVESTIA.

Ready to receive guests are the workers of the Moscow City Council on Tourism and Excursions — hundreds of guides and translators of the Council have undergone special training. Catering personnel — cooks, waiters, hair-dressers and barbers, housemaids, etc. — are receiving supplementary training in their professions and in the mastery of some foreign languages.

Account has been taken of the multitude of tastes and habits of the Festival guests. Cooks and their helpers at the Izmaloovo complex have made ready special menus of breakfasts, dinners and supper based on recipes of several national cuisines. 36 restaurant halls and cafeteria of the Izmaloovo hotel can seat more than 12 thousand guests at a time.

Special information stands are being installed at all places where participants in the Festival will stay. The comprehensive six-language programme of the Festival with its scores of pages, is being fed into the computer memory of the information installations at the Izmaloovo complex. In all its live hotel blocks these all-knowing computers can be consulted round the clock.

BOOK LOVERS OPEN PERSONAL LIBRARIES

Personal home libraries in the Soviet Union contain, according to various estimates, from 35 to 40 billion



Young artists of Zhitomir

A gay girl with a brush in her hand is the emblem of the young artists' studio in Zhitomir, the Ukraine. Its head, 46-year-old Leonid Polishchuk, a graduate of Leningrad art school, has been working in Zhitomir for more than 20 years, teaching drawing at the city Palace of Young Pioneers and Schoolchildren — a kind of club where the children learn useful professions of their preference.

Leonid Polishchuk's studio is attended by such kiddies as 5-year-old Lena Zaretskaya (picture). Every year 150-200 children join his studio. True, many of them drop out in the course of a year, but he thinks this is quite natural: today a child may like to become an artist, tomorrow — an actor or something else.

Today one can see the drawings of young artists from Zhitomir on Soviet postage stamps and posters, in illustrated books. They are often awarded prizes at all-Union and foreign exhibitions. Among them the leading award at a 1979 UNESCO competition, when, out of 800,000

drawings by children from 86 countries, the jury selected the work of Kira Sorochkina, a member of the studio. The drawing of another pupil of Leonid Polishchuk, 14-year-old Lyuba Antoshchuk, won the main prize at an international competition of children's drawings in San Francisco, sponsored by the organization Round-

Table Foundation — Children as Teachers of Peace. Lyuba's drawing showed boys and girls under the rays of a bright sun. I wanted to show world peace in the 21st century, she says. We shall all be friends. The bright sun — symbol of life — will shine because the children of our planet need peace so much.



Lyuba Antoshchuk by her drawing "Peace!" which won a prize in San Francisco.

TURBINES FOR NUCLEAR HEAT-AND-POWER STATIONS

A huge turbine with 1,000,000 kW capacity has been designed in detail at the Kirov plant in the Ukraine. Such installations, capable of producing electric power, heat and hot water for industrial needs, are expected to be already delivered during the next five-year development plan period

(1986-90) to Kharkovskaya and other Soviet nuclear heat-and-power electric stations now under construction.

With the new turbine efficiency of burnt nuclear fuel will increase by 40 per cent as compared with regular atomic turbines of the same capacity.

The gain is the result of using the exhaust steam to raise the temperature of water meant for central heating and water-supply systems.

Specialists estimate that the use of each such turbine will save the country about 20 million roubles.

books, while public libraries can offer their readers only 5 billion books. In order not to turn books into a "dead weight", members of the All-Union Voluntary Society of Book Lovers (current membership: 16,000,000) have appealed to owners of personal collections to open bookshelves for public use, writes the ARGUMENTY I FAKTY newspaper.

Their appeal has received broad response from the book lovers — more than 80,000 personal libraries are now open to readers. Moreover, 8,000 personal collections have been donated to public libraries free of charge.

Of great importance is this initiative in regions where mass public libraries are insufficient. Thus in Tajikistan (a Union republic in Central Asia) 300 personal libraries, containing more than 300,000 volumes, are now available for 5,000 readers.

TREATMENT WITH ELECTRIC SLEEP

Soviet scientists were the first to work out treatment with electric sleep. Today it has been recognized as one of the most effective methods not only in the USSR but also in other countries, writes the magazine SOVIETSKY KRASNY KREST (Soviet Red Cross).

Specialists maintain that applying low-voltage pulse currents to the human brain favourably influences the functional condition of the central nervous system. Therefore, electric sleep is used to cure atherosclerosis, cardiac diseases and various kinds of neuroses among adults. For children electric sleep is used to cure stomatitis, bronchial asthma, eczema and neuritic reactions. Apart from its effectiveness, this method of treatment attracts specialists by its absolute harmlessness and the absence of any side-effects, including allergic, and this is of particular importance in this age of "abundant drugs".

Today electric sleep rooms are functioning at many disease-prevention clinics in the country. There are

several varieties of "Blektrosan" apparatuses (for one patient or four patients at a time).

It must be stressed that patients (both children and adults) readily undergo this treatment.

PROTECTING NATURE: URALS' APPROACH

Environmental protection is one of the most burning problems of the day for humanity. Commenting on how it is being solved in the Urals (Russian Federation) the SIBSKAYA ZHIZN (Rural Life) newspaper writes that a vast programme, "Urals-Biosphere", is being implemented there. It was conceived to coordinate, study and solve the problem of rationally using nature and protecting the biological resources of the region.

Setting up the Sverdlovsk regional committee for ecological expert examination of various building and construction projects and of their designs has become a principally new nature protection approach in central Urals. From now on any construction project, including agricultural, has to undergo all-round ecological expert examination.

Ecological education of the rising generation is another important task, the newspaper points out. The Small Academy of Sciences in Sverdlovsk Region is well known. Its biological department teaches children the ABC of ecological knowledge while in summer they embark on scientific expeditions together with their teachers.

For several years now an operation dubbed "Phenomenon of Nature" is being carried out in the Sverdlovsk Region. Children are giving voluntary assistance to monuments of nature, coming up with new objectives. The results of the operation are rather serious: 30 monuments of nature have been described, and registered, and placed under protection.

VEHICLES
TO USE GAS

About 70,000 motor vehicles filled with compressed gas will run on the roads of Leningrad by the end of the decade. Thanks to this the city air will become much purer, since the toxicity of exhaust gases of vehicles using gas cylinders is much lower than that of vehicles running on petrol.

The transition from petrol to gas has other advantages too: longer service life of engine, spark plugs and twice or three less consumption of motor oil. It should not be forgotten either that extraction of gas is distinct from oil, calls for less labour and material expenditure.

Marine plantations
in the Far East

For the first time in the Far East, the Chappayev Collective Farm has begun an experiment on industrial cultivation of the Ceylon moss — a type of seaweed used for making agar-agar, a valuable substance in the production of gelatin.

Previously, agar-agar was widely spread in the Pacific area. However, its reserves in the Maritime area are now limited. On specialists' recommendation, a new biotechnology has been designed growing the Ceylon moss out of which high-quality agar-agar is obtained. This weed has another advantage. It rapidly grows in warm shallow lagoons. Fish farmers here will gather its first harvest in three months.

The development of the Far Eastern off-shore areas is a promising direction in the economy of the fish farms in the Maritime Territory. A purpose-oriented programme "Bereg" has been devised for the development of aquaculture. The fish farms already have some experience in growing mussels, oysters, and scallops. Today, they have started setting up marine plantations. The experiment will be resumed by the "Morskoy Bolovoy" fish farm, the only difference being that it will also grow sea tangle. From next year all the fish farms in the Maritime Territory will take up aquaculture.

Within
the WHO
programme

Prevention and treatment of sterility is the theme of a symposium organized within the framework of the World Health Organization (WHO) programme on reproduction of the points discussed in the symposium included in the programme of the WHO conference on sterility, held in Yerevan, Armenia, in 1978. It was attended by WHO experts and scientists from the USA, Britain, Australia and Brazil.

BUILDING... AN ANCIENT CITY

Reconstruction and preservation works have started at the ruins of an ancient city, Gorgippia, burnt down in the 4th century A. D. and discovered in what is now known as the town of Anapa (Black Sea health resort).

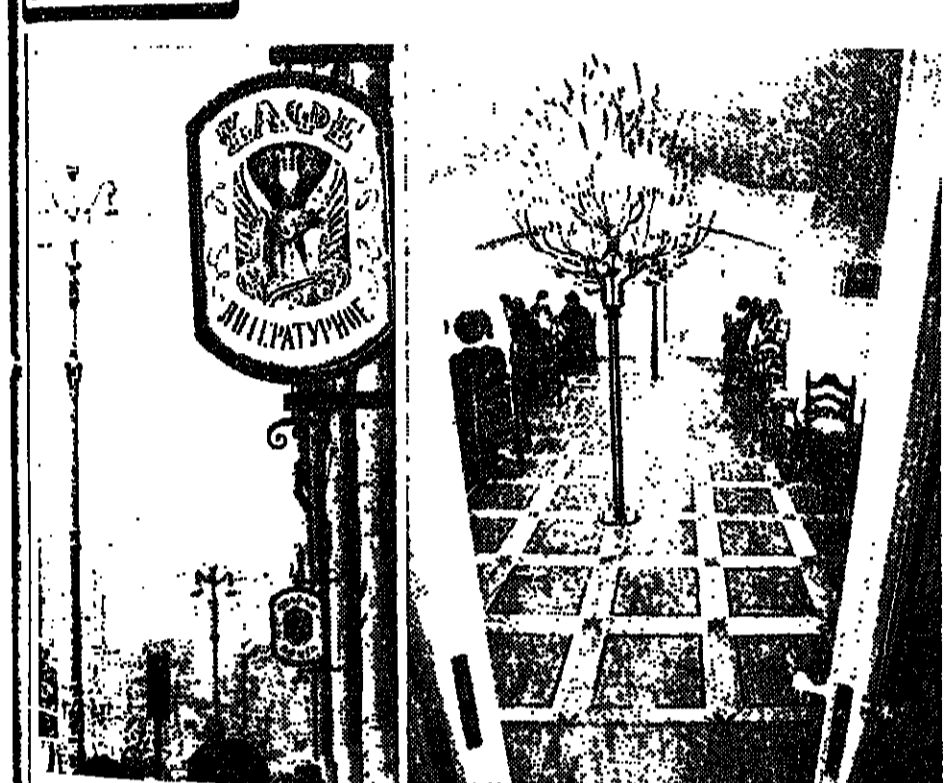
Gorgippia had been devastated by the Goths, and later the Huns. Its population consisted of fishermen, potters, stone-masons. Two streets are clearly recognizable in the ruins. One of them, along the seashore, was a highway, paved with massive flagstones. It led to the centre of the ancient Greek colony. Two thousand years ago chariots were rushing and strings of carriages, loaded with grain and fish, moved along these roads. Gorgippia was a big commercial

and industrial centre, an important stronghold of the Kingdom of the Bosphorus. There are slightly visible paths near these two roads: golden-day athletes raced along them. Names of victors are "inscribed" on a discovered white marble rock — altogether 230 winners of antique competitions dating back to the 3rd century B. C.

Specialists will have to fortify the masonry of the city's basements "glued" with clay solution and which is collapsing in the open air. Additional foundations will also be needed.

If today one can only admire the city from an observation platform, in the near future it will be possible to take a walk along an antique street.

Places to visit



The entrance to the Café.

Part of the interior.

CAFE FREQUENTED BY PUSHKIN

The Literary Café has become a new place of interest in Leningrad. In the past, this ancient building erected at the beginning of the last century housed a confectionery of two French brothers — Wolf and Berger. According to a legend, the café was highly popular among the circles of the capital's intelligentsia. It was frequently visited by the great Russian poet Alexander Pushkin. From here, accompanied by his second, he set off, on January 27, 1837, for the house, which has received his fatal wound.

The original appearance, rooms have been opened on the floors, and their interiors and decorations

given the air of Pushkin's epoch. The standard lamps, the chandeliers, tapestries and furniture were made by Leningrad masters on the basis of ancient samples.

The Literary Café has begun functioning under the auspices of creative unions, and a comprehensive programme of literary and musical parties has been drawn for it. It will become a place of meetings between Leningraders and foreign actors, musicians, writers, and composers. Another peculiarity of the new café is that its menu offers a choice of ancient drinks, as well as dishes of Russian and French cuisines of Pushkin's epoch.

OF INTEREST

Harmonium
orchestra

The original instrument has been designed by a group of specialists of the Poltava factory of musical instruments.

The electronic reed harmonium can be played on one side, and from both sides on the other. With its help one can reproduce the sounds of all the percussion instruments and horns. It resembles an orchestra.

The musical instrument is on display in a shop, reports the "Krasnaya Gazeta" (Workers' Newspaper).

OIL-NOSED PILOT

Water purification ships will now be helped by a reliable "pilot" capable to detect even the slightest oil slicks any time during the day or night. This installation for sampling the surface layer of liquid was designed by scientists at the Chemistry Institute of the Estonian Academy of Sciences.

A small ship tied to the fore of a minor purification vessel stops, turns right and left, and then returns. It is a water sampler. This special floating device can take samples of surface layers of water and detect the extent of pollution.

It is well known that oil slicks which spread over the surface of water are the most dangerous pollutants of ports. However, they are not always visible, especially in the night. This makes particularly difficult the work of oil-slick gathering ship. Now the operation of water puri-

fication vessels will increase by several hours at night. The new device for detecting water pollutants will be used on the republic's lakes and other inland reservoirs.

WALRUSES RETURNING

Pacific walruses are actively settling on grounds in the Kamchatka Peninsula (Soviet Far East). The 12 thousand animals are coming back to occupy the sites abandoned by their ancestors in the past century. They have formed eight permanent and four temporary colonies.

The last walrus grounds were destroyed off the Kamchatka shores at the end of the last century by hunters. With the establishment of Soviet power in the Far East and Northern Siberia, hunting of walruses be-

Science
and technologyLASERS CHANGE
THE FORM

The laser beam acquires the needed form by means of optical systems, worked out by the scientists of Byelorussia. These devices can "roll up" the luminous flux of a quantum generator into a hollow tube, make it flat, zigzag, square...

The manipulation with the form of the beam was needed to work out new methods of laser welding.

Scientists decided to give one instead of dozens and hundreds of spot pulses, but such a pulse so that the whole weld would penetrate simultaneously. For this it became necessary to work out special optical systems with which aerial lasers were fitted out. They are used not only in welding but also for hardening and thermal treatment. It turned out that the light beam of a complicated form cuts the glass and ceramic quicker and better than a diamond does, and labour productivity grows up five times.

FIRE-DETECTING DEVICE

The flames have faded out and firemen's work seems to be over, nothing more threatens the forest.

But it often happens that the danger is hidden underground, where concealed hotbeds are still aglow. After some time the flame reappears. A fire-detecting device, Talga-2, installed aboard a patrol helicopter or plane, reacts upon temperature overfall of less than 2.5°C. It detects smouldering hotbeds accurately.

INSTANT DIAGNOSIS

A new type of tomograph — a medical instrument for studying the tissue of live organism, including the brain — has been developed in Kiev. Unparalleled as to performance speed, it supplies information about part of the brain on display in less than a second after a patient is examined.

The computing tomograph makes it possible to study the tissues, without disturbing them. This instrument combines precision electronics, accurate mechanics, mathematical provision of unique complexity, superstable X-ray equipment. A tomogram is obtained on display as a result of layer-by-layer investigation of an object by narrow X-ray.

The use of computing tomographs is a kind of revolution in medicine, neurosurgeons note. It is now possible to painlessly and harmlessly obtain information about the brain. A tomograph enables medical workers to follow the process prior to and after operation. It is also used to examine outpatients.

Naturally, alongside these programmes the 12th Five-Year Development Plan will go on achieving its major economic goal, i.e. uninterrupted increase in the population's living standards. For the USSR finds it only natural that, following the Second World War and the economic rehabilitation, there has been continuous annual increase in the living standards of the people.

Even this brief account of problems faced by the Soviet economy positively shows that the 12th Five-Year Development Plan will require considerable efforts. Certainly, the economic potential acquired by this country is instrumental in solving these problems but, however, it does not automatically reduce their acuteness. That is why the USSR will move forward with the restructuring of its economic pattern, its management and planning mechanisms.

VIEWPOINT

Soviet economy:
basic
development
trends

It is clear that during the 12th Five-Year Development Plan period (1986-90) the Soviet Union will have to tackle complex and serious economic problems.

The objective is still that of placing the Soviet economy on the road of intensive development. This is not a simple task since the USSR accounts for the one-fifth of the world's industrial production, that is, more than the total world output in 1950.

The problem is that several programmes will be implemented simultaneously though they are not quite parallel in nature. In fact, the intensification primarily presupposes all-round rational utilization of resources, including material resources, raw materials and energy, while their expenditure per unit of the GNP will still exceed the limits specified by the most advanced world technologies.

The Soviet Union has to advance scientific and technological achievements, to update many economic industries, primarily mechanical engineering, which basically accounts for these achievements. Priority should be given to the development of machine-tool construction, instrument making, computer technology, electronics and electrical engineering. All these trends are extremely expensive and require heavy investments.

In addition, the USSR will further develop the natural resources in its eastern regions (primarily in Siberia), go on fulfilling a major Energy Programme and the national programme of land reclamation involving scores of millions of hectares of land. These also require investments and material expenditure.

Finally, despite full employment in the country our economy in general experiences manpower shortage, not to mention the fact that it is rechanneled from one industry to another on, at least, social grounds. Our principles assume that new technology should provide people with better, more skilled and intensive occupation, not to push them out. This means that millions of employees should undergo retraining at the expense of the state (which is our usual practice) at the same time relating their wages during the period.

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